

## Ag Nutrient Technician

Organization: Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Location: Ottawa, Ohio

### Job Description:

Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is looking for a full-time motivated candidate to help promote, assist, and educate Putnam County landowners about the best management practices for maintaining clean water, healthy soils, and a sustainable landscape. This position will be challenged with developing ways to mitigate how various land-use activities are specifically impacting Putnam County. The Nutrient Technician will seek the cooperation of landowners in understanding, following, and utilizing conservation plans to help address pollution abatement and duties as assigned. The ideal candidate should be a self-starter willing to orchestrate conservation management plans, supervise a volunteer led watershed assessment project, develop landowner workshops, instruct formal and informal classes, and provide a variety of technical assistance to SWCD Technicians in order to reduce nutrient and sediment run-off in the Putnam County area.

Work schedule of Mon-Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

40 hours a week with some evening meetings.

### Required Training, Experience and Qualifications:

- High School diploma required (Associate Degree or higher preferred in environmental sciences, natural resources, agronomy or a related water quality field)
- Must be able to pass a background check and random drug testing
- Must be able to traverse rough terrain in variable conditions and carry 40 pounds
- Must maintain a valid Ohio driver's license, insurance, and possess a good driving record
- Must have previous research experience and have demonstrated exceptional public relation skills
- Working knowledge/experience of agricultural practices
- Must maintain a clean and neat appearance consistent with the public contact aspect of the position
- Related work experience preferred

### Essential Functions:

- The office duties of this position will be performed in a public building environment but the primary duties of this position will require fieldwork which includes exposure to inclement weather conditions.
- Ability to operate standard office equipment and to operate a motor vehicle.
- All duties and actions performed by the employee on official duty will be of a nature that reflects favorably on Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

## Duties & Responsibilities:

- Responsible for organizing watershed planning, education and watershed plan implementation to protect a local water resource.
- Build public support and outreach for agriculture and promotion of activities and programs in the watershed.
  - Collection and analyses of land use and resource information
  - Identification of stakeholder concerns
  - Establishments of goals and supporting locally initiated strategies
- Make field visits to plan, design and coordinate watershed activities with land owners/users in Putnam County.
- Supervise and perform water environmental monitoring.
- Submit grant applications for Putnam County, implementation of grants and prepare reports as necessary for grantors.
- Work closely with producers to prepare and implement Nutrient Management Plans. Abilities required:
  - Acquire current Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) certification with training
  - Read, evaluate, and understand soil test reports
  - Understanding of manure management systems
  - Basic knowledge of general agronomy, crop rotation, and fertility recommendations
- Must be able to make connections between soil/geographic/agricultural data and water quality issues.
- Conservation Programs
  - Assist pollution abatement investigations throughout Putnam County
  - Assist in erosion control practices such as waterways
  - Promotion of windbreaks
  - Assist with NRCS conservation programs
  - Cost share opportunities and riparian management

## Skills & Abilities:

- Grant Experience – emphasis on seeking and applying for grants
- Experience working with landowners on conservation issues and demonstrated ability to educate adults about land use issues.
- Excellent writing and presentation, public relations and interpersonal skills
- Proficient computing skills including excel spreadsheets and GIS/GPS
- Must have a working knowledge of watershed issues, non-point source pollution remediation strategies, watershed management and conservation planning
- Knowledge of regional agricultural practices, conservation plans and CNMPs.
- Ability to work independently and manage time effectively.
- Ability to communicate effectively and courteously with the public and other employees
- The ability to develop a region-wide watershed assessment project/action plan with training
- Ability to coordinate and manage multi-organizational projects simultaneously
- Ability to research, analyze and interpret data and make recommendations

Applications are available by request by calling 419-523-5159, at the office, or online at Putnam SWCD's website [putnamcountyohio.gov](http://putnamcountyohio.gov).

To apply: Send Cover letter, Application, Resume, and three professional references by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 19, 2015 to:

Putnam SWCD  
1206 E. Second St. Suite 2  
Ottawa, OH 45875